



CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN NEWS

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WAXMAN URGES SENIORS BE PROTECTED FROM REAGAN CUTS

Democratic Congressman Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) has conceded that the Reagan Administration will "probably succeed" in making major cuts in many federal programs. The Congressman has expressed his intention of giving top priority to protecting Social Security -- including full cost-of-living increases, Medi-Care and other basic programs for the elderly.

Waxman said,

"I have always supported federal loans for needy college students and will continue to do so. However, a college student denied a loan may be able to borrow from family, get a part-time job, or work for a few years before starting school.

"In contrast, a Social Security recipient denied an increase to keep up with inflation has few options. Usually, the older person cannot find employment or move to cheaper housing. Instead, the senior citizen is forced to cut back on absolute essentials such as food and medicine."

"It is a simple fact of life that many senior citizens will not be able to enjoy programs we institute four or eight years from now. The older a person is, the more he must think in terms of the present and the immediate future. We simply cannot advise senior citizens with pressing problems to wait for a new President or a new national political mood," Waxman concluded.

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